Message Text

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PAGE 01 NATO 05111 102129Z ACTION EUR-12

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USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

UNCLAS NATO 05111

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: MARR NATO

SUBJECT: NETHERLANDS WATER POLLUTION TAXES ON AFCENT

THERE FOLLOWS FOR INFORMATION THE TEXT OF AN INTERNAL CORRESPONDENCE SHEET (WITH ENCLOSURE) ADDRESSED TO HEADS OF NATIONAL DELEGATIONS FROM THE CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, ALLIED FORCES CENTRAL EUROPE, DATED 26 MAY 1977, ADVISING NON-DUTCH (PRIVATELY QUARTERED) PERSONNEL OF ACTION TO BE TAKEN WHEN CONFRONTED WITH DEMANDS TO PAY WATER POLLUTION TAX.

BEGIN TEXT:

REFERENCE COS ICS 4941/26-04/470/77 DATED 25 FEB 77. 1. AS A FOLLOW ON TO THE REQUEST AT REFERENCE, CON-

CERTED ACTION IS AGAIN REQUIRED THROUGH NATIONAL AUTHORITIES TO MEET DEMANDS FROM THE LOCAL AUTHORITY AGAINST INDIVIDUALS TO PAY WATER POLLUTION TAX IN RESPECT OF PRIVATE ACCOMMODATION.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 NATO 05111 102129Z

2. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT NON-DUTCH AFCENT PERSONNEL ARE BEING SERVED WITH ROYAL WARRANTS DEMANDING PAYMENT ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS. IF A SITUATION DEVELOPS WHERE PAYMENT IS ABSOLUTELY UNAVOIDABLE, BECAUSE BAILIFFS STATE THEIR INTENTION OF REMOVING ARTICLES FROM PRIVATE HOUSEHOLDS, IN DEFRAYMENT OF UNPAID BILLS, THE FOLLOW-

ING ACTION IS TO BE TAKEN:

INDIVIDUAL PAYMENTS SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY A LETTER WORDED:

"TO WATERSCHAP ZUIVERINGSCHAP LIMBURG:

AS A MEMBER OF AFCENT I AM EXEMPT FROM THE ABOVE TAX UNDER ARTICLE X OF THE NATO STATUS OF FORCES AGREEMENT. I ENCLOSE A CHEQUE/CASH FOR TO AVOID HAVING MY GOODS TAKEN AWAY BY A BAILIFF. I PAY UNDER PROTEST, AND RESERVE THE RIGHT TO CLAIM BACK THIS MONEY SHOULD THE PRESENT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE SENDING STATES AND THE NETHERLANDS AUTHORITIES BE RESOLVED IN MY FAVOR."

3. IN ADDITION TO ADVISING YOUR PERSONNEL ON THE ACTION THEY SHOULD TAKE WHEN CONFRONTED WITH DEMANDS TO PAY WATER POLLUTION TAX DEMANDS, IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE POSITION BE REPORTED TO YOUR NATIONAL MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES AT SHAPE. A DRAFT OF A SUGGESTED MESSAGE IS ENCLOSEDFOR YOUR USE, SO THAT ACTION TAKEN BY ALL NATIONS REPRESENTED AT HQ AFCENT FOLLOWS A COMMON PATTERN. /S/ DEWANDRE, LT GENERAL, BEA.

END TEXT.

BEGIN TEXT OF ENCLOSURE:

SUBJECT: IMPOSITION OF WATER POLLUTION TAX - BEROEP-UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 NATO 05111 102129Z

SCHRIFT WATERSTAATSZAKEN - BY NETHERLANDS LOCAL AUTHORITIES AGAINST NON-DUTCH PERSONNEL

IN SPITE OF ACTION TAKEN BY SECRETARY GENERAL TO REFER NETHERLANDS WATER POLLUTION TAX LEVY TO NATO COUNCIL AS CONTRAVENTION OF ARTICLE TEN OF STATUS FORCES AGREEMENT DEMANDS STILL BEING RECEIVED BY AFCENT HOUSEHOLDERS. LATEST ACTION REPORTED IS SERVING OF ROYAL WARRANTS REQUIRING INTERNATIONAL PERSONNEL LIVING IN PRIVATE ACCOMMODATION TO PAY THE TAX FOR 1975 PERIOD. NO REPLY HAS BEEN RECEIVED TO HEADQUARTERS AFCENT LETTERS CLAIMING EXEMPTION FROM THIS TAX UNDER SOFA. SITUATION IS NOW BECOMING CRITICAL AS INDIVIDUALS ARE BEING HARASSED BY TAX DEMANDS ON PERSONAL BASIS. REQUEST STRONGEST POSSIBLE ACTION TO MAKE OFFICIAL PROTEST THROUGH NATO COUNCIL ON NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT DISREGARD OF TERMS OF STATUS OF FORCES AGREEMENT.

END TEXT OF ENCLOSURE.

COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THAT THE ABOVE AFCENT ACTION IS A

USEFUL HOLDING ACTION PENDING RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM BY THE AD HOC GROUP ESTABLISHED BY THE NAC ON 3 JUNE 77 (USNATO 4677, 032033Z JUNE 77). END COMMENT. STREATOR

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